

**COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2012**

In attendance:

Council

Mark McCouch
Gregory S. Nesbitt
Andrew Santacroce
Deborah Tustin
W. William Whiteside, III

Staff

William T. Walker, Township Manager
Michael Galla – Director of Administration
Mary Eberle, Esq. - Solicitor
Erik Garton, PE - Engineer
Richard Sabol – Director of Finance

President McCouch opened a Public Hearing at 7:02 PM in the Township Building, 1025 Horsham Road, Horsham, PA, with a public hearing on the proposed ordinance amending the Horsham Township Zoning Ordinance to revise the regulations for off-premises advertising signs (including billboards). He stated that Township Council asked staff to review the regulations for off-premises advertising signs, and the proposed Ordinance is the result. E. Van Rieker, Township Planner, provided Township Council with a brief synopsis of the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Whiteside asked about billboard spacing requirements, and whether or not distance was appropriate. Mr. Van Rieker stated that the new Ordinance provides spacing requirements that are spatially adequate, and derived from expert input from those in the industry. President McCouch asked for questions or comments from the public and there were none. The public hearing concluded at 7:13 PM.

Mr. McCouch then called the Council Meeting to order, and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. He asked for questions or comments from the public and there were none.

Mr. Walker introduced two new members of the Horsham Township Police Department. The two individuals are replacing retired police officers. District Justice Harry Nesbitt swore in Police Officer Sean M. Gallagher and Police Officer Kelli A. Fronk.

Chief Ruxton asked that Township Council table the police commendation agenda item. He stated that there is a conflict with the recipient's schedule. Township Council tabled the item, and will reschedule it for an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Walker announced that the Horsham Township Police Department received an accreditation, given every three years, and that this prestigious recognition has only been given to a select number of Pennsylvania police departments. Chief Ruxton provided additional details of the award, particularly its history and evolution, and introduced Mr. Joseph Blackburn, accreditation project coordinator from the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association in Harrisburg. Mr. Blackburn identified the purpose of the award as promoting police professionalism and then described the criteria used for granting accreditation. Township Council congratulated Chief Ruxton and the Police Department.

Mr. McCouch asked for questions and comments from the public and there were none. He then announced a short recess beginning at 7:35 PM, and reconvening at 7:45 PM.

Mr. McCouch asked for the will of Council concerning the List of Checks. It was moved by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Santacroce, to approve the List of Checks in all funds in

the amount of \$332,058.94, and authorize payment of same. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McCouch asked for the will of Council concerning the List of Checks in the General Fund for Verizon Wireless and Comcast in the amount of \$1,713.50. It was moved by Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Whiteside, to approve payment of the List of Checks in the General Fund for Verizon Wireless and Comcast in the amount of \$1,713.50, and authorize payment of same. Mr. Santacroce abstained, and the motion passed 4-0-1.

Mr. Walker stated that JAMCAMP, LLP., requested an indefinite continuance for its zoning hearing board application, and then introduced the zoning hearing board application of Park Ridge Properties, LLC. Park Ridge Properties is proposing to construct a waste pre-processing facility on the property located at 1000 Park Ridge Road within Horsham Township's PI Planned Industrial District and APZ (Accident Potential Zone 1) Zone, and is requesting zoning relief. Council is neutral, with conditions, on this zoning hearing board application.

Mr. McCouch asked for the will of Council regarding the Billboard Ordinance. It was moved by Mr. Santacroce, second by Mr. Whiteside, to adopt the ordinance as proposed amending the Horsham Township Zoning Ordinance's Regulations regarding off-premises outdoor advertising signs (billboards) and permitting such signs as a special exception in certain portions of the SC-1, GC-2, I-2 and I-3 Industrial Zoning Districts.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. McCouch: Aye Mr. Nesbitt: Aye Mr. Santacroce: Aye
Ms. Tustin: Aye Mr. Whiteside: Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to an Executive Session at 8:15 PM for the purpose of discussing personnel and real estate issues.

William T. Walker